

REMARKS

Claims 15, 18, 29, and 35-43 are pending. Claims 18, 29, 35-38, and 40-42 have been amended. Claims 15, 39, and 43 have been previously presented. Claims 1-14, 16, 17, 19-28, and 30-34 have been canceled. No new matter has been introduced by the amendment.

1. Claim Objections

Claims 26, 28, 31 and 33 have been objected to under 37 C.F.R. 1.75(c). Claims 26, 28, 31 and 33 have been canceled. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that the objections to claims 26, 28, 31 and 33 are moot and should be withdrawn.

2. Double Patenting

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17, 19, 20, 25, 27, 29, 30, 32, 34, and 35 have been provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory double patenting over claims 1, 2, 4, 10, 11, and 15 of co-pending Application No. 10/793,179 (now U.S. Pat. No. 7,296,578; the “578 patent”). Claims 15, 18, and 21-24 have been provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory double patenting over claims 1, 2, 4, 10, 11, and 15 of the ’578 patent in view of Houck et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 4,600,027). Claims 36-43 have been provisionally rejected on the ground of nonstatutory double patenting over claims 1, 2, 4, 10, 11, and 15 of the ’578 patent in further view of Molins et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 4,111,740), Schneider (U.S. Pat. No. 5,979,459), and Houck.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17, 19, 20-25, 27, 30, 32, and 34 have been canceled. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections against claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17, 19, 20-25, 27, 30, 32, and 34 are moot and should be withdrawn.

Furthermore, the Applicant hereby submits a terminal disclaimer regarding claims 15, 18, 29, and 35-43. Claims 18, 29, 35-37, 40, and 41 have been rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections against claims 15, 18, 29, and 35-43 have been overcome and should be withdrawn.

3. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §102(f)

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17, 19, 20, 25, 27, 30, 32, and 34 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(f). Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17, 19, 20, 25, 27, 30, 32, and 34 have been canceled. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections against claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11, 13, 14, 16, 17, 19, 20, 25, 27, 30, 32, and 34 are moot and should be withdrawn.

4. Claim Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1, 2, 4, 19, 20, 25-28, and 31-34 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Luke et al. (U.S. Pat. No. 4,583,558) in view of Molins. Claims 21-24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Luke, in view of Molins and Schneider. Claims 1, 2, 4, 19, 20, 21-28, and 31-34 have been canceled. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that the rejections against claims 1, 2, 4, 19, 20, 21-28, and 31-34 are moot and should be withdrawn.

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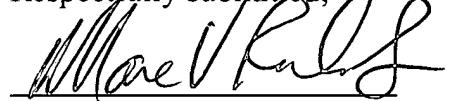
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5. Conclusion

Based on the above amendments and remarks, the Applicant submits that the claims are in condition for allowance. The examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned attorney to expedite allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



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